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AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A database of visual images includes metadata having, for a particular image, at least one entry specifying: a part of that image, another stored image, and a measure S_{abi} of the degree of similarity between that specified part and the specified other image. ~~The searching method comprises displaying one~~ One or more images are displayed and; ~~receiving input is received~~ from a user (for example, by using a gaze tracker) indicative of part of the displayed images; ~~determining measures~~ . Measures of interest are determined for each of a plurality of non-displayed stored images specified by the metadata for the displayed image(s), as a function of the similarity measure(s) and the relationship between the user input and the part specified; ~~and, on~~ . On the basis of these measures, ~~selecting,~~ a selection is made from those non-displayed stored images[[,]] of further images for display.